

State Advisory Group (Juvenile Council)
staffed by the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2017
Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
100 Community Place
1st Floor Conference Room, Side B
Crownsville, MD 21032
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Participating Members:

Anne Marie Hansen-Combs (phone)
Bruce Edwards
Darren Stephenson
Delegate Geraldine Valentino-Smith
Heather Chapman
Keith Warner
Judge Michael Stamm (phone)
Leon Lockett (phone)
Lisa Garry
Lynn Davis
Lynette Holmes for Secretary Abed (phone)
Liz Park (phone)
Maceo Hallmon (phone)
Melanie Shapiro
Michelle Becote-Jackson, Vice Chair
Musa Hammett
Rebecca Jones-Gaston
Robert Johnson, Jr.
Ron Rivlin, Chair

Guests:

Eric Ford, University of Maryland, Baltimore County Choice Program
Tomiko Shine, MD Releasing Aging People in Prison (RAPP)

Staff:

Bill Harper, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Jessica Wheeler, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Sabraya Knight, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Shanelle Johnson, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

I. Welcome, Introductions, and Chair's Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. Members and guests introduced themselves. Mr. Rivlin provided the members with a brief overview of the Disproportionate Minority Contact conference and thanked the members that provided assistance at the conference and making it a success. The Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) wants to continue the dialog with the Maryland State Advisory Group and members welcomed that opportunity.

II. Approval of Minutes

Lynn Davis made a motion to approve the minutes. Captain Warner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

III. Seeing In Color - Maryland Department of Juvenile Services' Racial Equity Assessment Lens

Ms. Garry provided members with an overview of the Department of Juvenile Services' implementation of a new racial equality assessment lens. This new framework will look at qualitatively reducing or changing the trajectory of youth in color. The Department's goal is to be more intentional and specific about achieving institutional and structural racial equity. Through data analysis, the Department has found that while the population for youth committed is decreasing, racial disparities continue to increase across the spectrum. The Department is now focusing on root causes of disparities including the school to prison pipeline and the child welfare system.

IV. Subcommittee Reports

A. Grant Monitoring

In December, the subcommittee visited the Family League of Baltimore City, Inc.'s Youth Empowerment Program (PYEP). The program works with parents who refuse or are unable to pick up their child at the time of arrest and provides them with services that meet the needs of the youth and the family. The program has served over 120 youth in calendar year 2016. The PYEP has been a model for other states and countries that are looking to replicate their success. Funding and sustainability are concerns for the program and SAG members are encouraged to discuss options. The following is a list of remaining site visits in FY 17:

February 2017 (TBD)

Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County's School Restorative Justice Program

March 2017 (TBD)

Dorchester County's Teen Court
University of Baltimore's Truancy Court
Wicomico Co. DMC Coordination program

B. Youth Engagement

Ms. Wheeler provided an overview of the youth engagement subcommittee on behalf of Zach Caplan. Ms. Wheeler welcomed Marcus Bennett, a new youth member and student at Morgan State University. Transportation continues to be an obstacle and members are encouraged to provide transportation to the youth members, if possible. Youth members will be participating in focus groups in conjunction with the Grant Monitoring Subcommittee.

C. Disproportionate Minority Contact

Ms. Johnson reminded members of an upcoming DMC subcommittee meeting on January 25th at 1:00 p.m. at the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention, 100 Community Place, 1st Floor, Crownsville, MD 21032.

She provided details from the subcommittee's last meeting which included a presentation from Ed Clarke of the Maryland Center for School Safety. During the meeting, Mr. Clarke advised that there are funding opportunities available through the Maryland Center for School Safety for School Resource Officers and urged the Council to take advantage of these opportunities.

D. Recruitment, Training, and Regionalization

Captain Warner stated that the SAG is considering a number of new members with interviews scheduled later in the month. In June, there will be a total of nine vacancies on the SAG. He urged members to continue to actively recruit for these positions. Ms. Chapman requested a list of the vacancies, including the seats that they fill and their jurisdictions as a tool to aid in the recruitment process. Captain Warner reminded members that there is training for new SAG members scheduled to take place on January 25th at 2:00 pm.

IV. Juvenile Justice Specialist Updates

Mrs. Wheeler provided members with last year's Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) and encouraged feedback or modifications. Due to time limitations, a conference call will be scheduled to finalize the NOFA with members.

V. Compliance Updates

Mr. Harper provided members with a year-end overview of compliance monitoring. The overall trend for violations is decreasing, yet there remains an overrepresentation of youth of color entering the juvenile justice system. It is expected that jail removal violations will continue to decrease over the next two years with the opening of the Youth Detention Center in Baltimore City, which is expected to completely eliminate jail removal violations in the city. Overall, the state is in compliance with the core protections of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP A).

VI. Adjournment

Ms. Davis made a motion to adjourn; the motion was seconded. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

March 13, 2017

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

100 Community Place

1st Floor Conference Room, Side A

Crownsville, MD 21032

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.